

## CLAIMS AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claims 3, 4 and 8 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (cancelled)

5. (previously amended) An isolated leptin receptor (OB-R) polypeptide which is OB-Re (SEQ ID NO:10), or allelic variants thereof.

Claim 6 (cancelled)

7. (previously amended) An isolated leptin receptor (OB-R) polypeptide of amino acids 28-805 of SEQ ID NO: 10, or allelic variants thereof.

Claim 8 (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A soluble leptin receptor which is selected from OB-Re (SEQ ID NO:10) and amino acids 28-805 of SEQ ID NO:10. of Claim 8 which is selected from the group consisting of

a) ~~OB-Re (SEQ ID NO:10);~~

b) ~~an N-terminal sequence which is selected from the group consisting of:~~

~~i) OB-Ra (SEQ ID NO:2),~~

~~ii) OB-Rb (SEQ ID NO:4),~~

~~iii) OB-Rd (SEQ ID NO:8), and~~

~~iv) corresponding to SEQ ID NO:55 from Pro<sup>664</sup>, through His<sup>796</sup> [His<sup>799</sup>], and a C terminal sequence which is OB Re from His<sup>796</sup> (SEQ ID NO:91); and~~  
~~v) allelic variants of any of subparts i) through iv);~~  
 e) ~~an N terminal sequence which is selected from the group consisting of~~  
~~i) amino acid residues 1-796 (SEQ ID NO:85);~~  
~~ii) amino acid residues 23-796 (SEQ ID NO:86);~~  
~~iii) amino acid residues 28-796 (SEQ ID NO:87);~~  
~~iv) amino acid residues 133-796 (SEQ ID NO:88);~~  
~~v) amino acid residues 733-796 (SEQ ID NO:89); and~~  
~~vi) allelic variants of any of subparts i) through v); and~~  
~~a C terminal sequence which is SEQ ID NO:15;~~  
 wherein the numbering in subparts b) and c) is based on the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:55.

Claims 10-62 (cancelled)

63. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a soluble leptin receptor according to ~~any of claims 8 or~~ claim 9, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims 64-65 (cancelled)

66. (currently amended) A body appearance improving cosmetic composition for modulating the body weight of an individual comprising a soluble leptin receptor of claim ~~8 or~~ 9, and an acceptable carrier.

Claim 67 (cancelled)

68. (currently amended) The leptin receptor of any one of Claims 5, 7 and 9 ~~3-5 and 7-9~~ which is a murine leptin receptor.

69. (new) The isolated leptin receptor (OB-R) polypeptide of any of claims 5, 7 or 9 which is a soluble receptor and which is encoded by a nucleic acid which is amplifiable in a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) with a PCR probe selected from group consisting of a probe for clone 7 (forward primer SEQ ID NO:42 and reverse primer SEQ ID NO:43), a probe for clone 11 (forward primer SEQ ID NO:44 and reverse primer SEQ ID NO:45), and both clone 7 and clone 11.

70. (new) The isolated leptin receptor (OB-R) polypeptide of any of claims 5, 7 or 9 which is a soluble receptor and which is encoded by a nucleic acid which is amplifiable in a PCR reaction with a PCR probe selected from the group consisting of a probe for clone S14 (forward primer SEQ ID NO:51 and reverse primer SEQ ID NO:52); and a probe for clone S3 (forward primer SEQ ID NO:53 and reverse primer SEQ ID NO:54).